

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2015

The regular meeting of the Maui County Board of Water Supply was held at the Department of Planning Conference Room, 250 South High Street, Wailuku, Maui, on Thursday, February 19, 2015.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kamai at 9:15 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: William Kamai
R. Raymond Cabebe
Cyrus Kodani
Anders Lyons
Michael Suzuki

Staff present: David Taylor, Director
Paul Meyer, Deputy Director
Jennifer Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Gaye Hayashida, Commission Support Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of January 15, 2015

Chair Kamai asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 15, 2015 as submitted.

Motion: Member Lyons moved to approve the minutes of January 15, 2015 as submitted.

Second: Member Kodani

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. The minutes of January 15, 2015 were approved as submitted.

Chair Kamai asked for a motion to approve the executive session minutes of January 15, 2015 as submitted.

Motion: Member Kodani moved to approve the executive session minutes of January 15, 2015.

Second: Member Lyons

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. The executive session minutes of January 15, 2015 were approved as submitted.

TESTIMONY FROM THE PUBLIC

No public testimony was given.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review and discussion on the Committee's points on the Department's future rates and fees

As a member of this investigative committee, Member Cabebe apologized to the board for not finishing the report. One idea the committee discussed is a payment plan for the water system development fee and so he asked if the other board members have any ideas on how it should be done.

Member Lyons asked why the water system development fees cannot be included in all the rates so that all customers would be responsible for the entire system. To which Member Cabebe read MCC14.07 and stated that as he understands it new users would impose additional demands on the system so these new customers should bear the costs.

Member Lyons stated that with his limited understanding of the fee structure he felt that the language in MCC 14.07 sounded like it can go towards not just new sources but towards upgrading existing systems. We all should be paying whatever the delivery costs are and he added that the current fee structure doesn't do that, it is lower than it should be.

At this time, Chair Kamai asked Member Cabebe to provide at the next meeting a layout of the topics the committee discussed so the rest of the board may review and comment on it.

Director Taylor explained that the water rates and fees are set up similar to the rates and fees of Maui Electric and the wastewater utility where the costs for the physical infrastructure are put on the new customer. That is the philosophy of this department and other utilities in our community. It is about fairness and there is nothing wrong if this board wants to recommend a different philosophy on fairness. The board may send a letter to the council via the mayor recommending their views.

The director also corrected Member Lyons by stating that the Water System Development fees are restricted funds and can only be used for new infrastructure that supports new water use. The water system development fees are dedicated for those restricted uses and not to be used for repair or replacement of existing pipelines.

OTHER BUSINESS

Receipt of Board Member request for agenda items to be placed on future agendas

1. Review and discussion on the Committee's points on the Department's future rates and fees to be placed under Unfinished Business.

DIVISION REPORTS

Operational Division Reports

Director Taylor reported that it is business as usual and added:

1. The Olinda Treatment Plant has been down for a few months due to major maintenance of both the Waikamoi reservoirs and the in-plant sedimentation basin re-lining. They are hoping to wrap up these projects in the next few weeks.
2. The granular activated carbon project at the Piiholo Treatment Plant is almost online.
3. There is ongoing standard maintenance, replacement and repairs. The last storm knocked out power at a number of locations so they had to use the emergency generators. Luckily, the heavy rains caused demand to drop.
4. Next month is the East Maui Instream Flow Standards contested case hearing before the state water commission. This affects the county, all stream users, cultural practitioners, and HC&S. The commission will decide how much water stays in the streams and how much can be diverted.
5. The mayor will transmit the department's budget to the council on March 25th and at the next meeting the director will share with the board what they are proposing for the next fiscal year.

At this time Member Suzuki asked for an update on the Waikamoi Flume project.

Director Taylor replied that the flume is fully functional and the contractor is finishing up the little bits and pieces like safety railings and cleaning up. The transmission system is 100% complete.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Prepared by:

Gaye Hayashida
Commission Support Clerk

Approved for distribution:

David Taylor
Director